

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 447

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to recognize and congratulate Head Coach Tory Acheson and the Tennessee Tech University softball team upon winning the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament Championship Title.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful athletic teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, lead by Head Coach Tory Acheson, the Tennessee Tech University (TTU) softball team has achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2005 season, winning the 2005 Ohio Valley Conference Softball Tournament and achieving an impressive record of thirty-five wins and twenty-six losses; and

WHEREAS, powered by the stifling pitching of Bonnie Bynum, the #2 seed Golden Eagles defeated the #1 seed Jacksonville State softball team in the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) Tournament finals by the score of six to two; and

WHEREAS, after falling behind by one run, TTU scored four runs in the top of the second inning with an RBI single by Lindsay Williams and a three-run homer by Beth Boden; and

WHEREAS, sealing their victory in the sixth, Whitney Williams smashed a double to score Steph Fischer; then, Beth Boden collected hit her fourth RBI of the game with a single to again score Lindsay Williams; and

WHEREAS, capturing their fourth OVC Tournament Crown and third OVC Title in five years, the TTU softball team gained an automatic berth into the NCAA Tournament with their championship game win, their second berth in three years; and

WHEREAS, Kacy Bennett and Ashley Potts were both named to the All-Tournament team; and

WHEREAS, Tournament Most Valuable Player, Bonnie Bynum, pitched every inning of the tournament for the Golden Eagles, striking out twenty-two batters and allowing only two runs on fourteen hits and nine walks; and

WHEREAS, the Golden Eagle's impressive offense pounded out eight hits in the championship game and seventeen hits for the tournament, tallying a total of sixteen runs for the entire tournament; and

WHEREAS, conference tournament championships are achieved only through hard work, dedication, and the ability to work together as a team and excel together with a cooperative spirit; the Golden Eagles exhibited each of these rare qualities during their district tournament; and

WHEREAS, the softball players at Tennessee Tech University epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the field while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; they inspired the school's student body and united their entire community in completing their triumphal run through the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship softball season, but also surely bodes well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles softball team upon winning the 2005 Ohio Valley Conference Softball Tournament Title and for serving as examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Tory Achenson and the Tennessee Tech University softball team upon capturing the Ohio Valley Conference

Tournament Championship, wish them luck in the NCAA tournament, and wish them every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.